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SAN DOMINGO.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

Special Message of the President.

the censure of disappointed men.
U. S. GRANT.

Report of the Commissioners,

The Commissioners begin by referring to the

action of Congress in providing for the appoint-

ment of a commission to visit and inquire into

allude to their departure on the Tennessee, and

The present government of the Dominican

Republic is in theory a constitutional republic.

According to its constitution the government is

divided into three branches, the executive, legis-

lative, and judicial. The first consists of a

President and Vice President elected by an

electoral college for a term of six years, with a

difference of three years in the time of their

election. Both the President and Vice Presi-

dent are ineligible to the presidency during the

merce; and of War and Marine; on one of

these four Ministers the duties of Minister of

The legislative branch of the Government

consists of a Senate, (Senado Consultor) elected

by the primary assemblies, and has two mem-

bers for the city of San Domingo, two for San-

tiago, and one for each of the other provinces

and districts-nine members in all. These hold

Each province and district has a Governor.

and each parish and military post has a com-

nandant, nominated by the Executive and re-

sponsible to him. The towns are governed by

ayuntamientos or councils elected by the pri-

The judiciary consists of a Supreme Court,

portant; but neither has a distinct flag or a

regularly organized army; neither is the expo-

animated by interests, attachments, and resent-

lated, and that the force immediately at Cabral's

command does not exceed a few hundred men,

CAUSES OF DISTURBANCE.

Besides the revolts which have been named.

First of these may be mentioned the provin-

office for six years, and may be re-elected.

mary assemblies for three years.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 5, 1871.

The President, on the 5th instant, forwarded to Congress the report of the San Domingo Commissioners, with the following accompany

To the Senate and House of Representatives: I have the honor to submit herewith to the two Houses of Congress the report of the Com- the condition of the Dominican Republic, missioners appointed in pursuance of joint resolution approved January 12, 1871.

It will be observed that this report more give the result of their investigations as folthan sustains all that I have heretofore said in lows : regard to the productiveness and healthfulness of the Republic of San Domingo, of the unanimity of the people for annexation to the United States, and of their peaceable character.

It is due to the public, as it certainly is to myself, that I should here give all the circumstances which first led to the negotiation of a treaty for the annexation of the Republic of San Domingo to the United States. When I accepted the arduous and responsible position which I now hold, I did not dream of instituting any steps for the acquisition of insular pos-sessions. I believed, however, that our instisessions. I believed, however, that our insti-tutions were broad enough to extend over the entire continent as rapidly as other peoples might desire to bring themselves under our protection. I believed further that we should protection, I believed, further, that we should not permit any independent government within or protection under a European power.

Soon after my inauguration as President I was waited upon by an agent of President Baez with a proposition to annex the Republic of San Domingo to the United States. This gentleman represented the capacity of the island. the desire of the people, and their character and habits about as they have been described by the Commissioners whose report accompanies this message. He stated, further, that, being weak in numbers and poor in purse, they were not capable of developing their great resources; that the people had no incentive to industry, on account of lack of protection for their accumulations, and that if not accepted by the United States, with institutions which four Ministers, and an Attorney General, who they loved above those of any other nation, they would be compelled to seek protection made by the electoral college, and who hold elsewhere. To these statements I made no office five years. reply, and gave no indication of what I thought

of the proposition. In the course of time I was waited upon by a second gentleman from San Domingo, who made the same representations, and who was

received in like manner.

In view of the facts which had been laid before me, and with an earnest desire to maintain the "Monroe doctrine," I believed that I should be derelict in my duty if I did not take measures to ascertain the exact wish of the Government and inhabitants of the Republic of San Domingo in regard to annexation, and communicate the information to the people of the. United States. Under the attending circumstances I felt that if I turned a deaf ear to this appeal I might in the future be justly charged with a flagrant neglect of the public interests. and an utter disregard of the welfare of a downtrodden race, praying for the blessings of a free and strong government and for protection in the enjoyment of the fruits of their own industry. Those opponents of annexation who have heretofore professed to be pre-eminently the friends of the rights of man I believe would be my most violent assailants if I neglected so clear a duty. Accordingly, after having appointed a commissioner to visit the island, who declined on account of sickness, I selected a second gentleman, in whose capacity, judgment, and integrity I had and have yet the most unbounded confidence. He visited San Domingo, not to secure or hasten annexation, but unprejudiced and unbiased to learn all the facts about the Government, the people, and

the resources of that Republic. He went certainly as well prepared to make an unfavorable report as a favorable one, if the facts warranted it. His report fully corroborated the views of previous commissions, and upon its receipt I felt that a sense of duty and a due regard for our great national interests required me to negotiate a treaty for the acqui- nent of a clearly defined policy. Both seem

As soon as it became publicly known that ments purely personal. That General Cabral such a treaty had been negotiated, the atten- does not claim to be the legal head of the Retion of the country was occupied with allega- public; that he does not claim to represent tions calculated to prejudice the merits of the the principle of constitutional or legal authority case, and with aspersions upon those whose and order, is shown by the fact that, in his duty had connected them with it. Amidst the proclamation, and in a communication to the public excitement thus created the treaty failed | Commission, he styles himself "Chief of the to receive the requisite two thirds vote of the Revolution;" and the journal pretending to Senate, and was rejected; but whether the ac- emanate from him at San Juan, but well untion of that body was based wholly upon the derstood to be printed at the Haytian capital, merits of the treaty, or might not have been in is styled "Bulletin of the Revolution." some degree influenced by such unfounded because the debates of the Senate, in secret bandit, stained with crime. session, are not published. Under these circumstances, I deemed it due to the office which | has its seat in the western part of the Republic I hold, and due to the character of the agents on the Haytian frontier. It is claimed that who had been charged with the investigation, the districts of San Juan and Neyba, in which that such proceedings should be had as would his operations are conducted, embrace a large enable the people to know the truth. A com- population devoted to him ; but the testimony mission was, therefore, constituted under au- of several refugees and heads of families from thority of Congress, consisting of gentlemen that district, as well as considerable corroboraselected with special reference to their high tive evidence, shows that the region named, character and capacity for the laborious work | between the incursions of the Haytians and the intrusted to them, who were instructed to visit prevalence of insurrection, is nearly depoputhe spot and report upon the facts. Other eminent citizens were requested to accompany the Commission, in order that the people might have the benefit of their views. Students of science and correspondents of the press, without regard to political opinions, were invited to The Commissioners believe that had these limited only by the capacity of the vessel.

The mere rejection by the Senate of a treaty down. Their whole importance is derived from negotiated by the President only indicates a the help of foreign intriguers and from the the actual population of the Republic does not difference of opinion between two co-ordinate fact that behind them stands the Haytian na- exceed 150,000. This does not include the many departments of the Government, without touching the pride of tion and revenue of the Dominican Republic; secount of the continual disturbances, nor the either. But when such a rejection takes place simultaneously with charges openly made of corruption on the part of the President, or of corruption on the part of the President, or of the murder of his predecessor.

which has never rejection in its aggressive policy; and at whose head is a President tenths, perhaps nineteen-twentieths, are native Dominicans. The others are, first, colored to the murder of his predecessor. either. But when such a rejection takes place which has never relented in its aggressive demands investigation. This has been accomplished by the report of the Commissioners and the Haytian aggressions, some minor causes have, in the weaked condition of the Republic, tended to aggravate its difficulties. herewith transmitted, and which fully vindicates the purity of the motives and action of those who represented the United States in the

negotiation. And now my task is finished, and with it ends all personal solicitude upon the subject. My daty being done, yours begins, and I gladly mountains and those inhabiting the southern mineral wealth in various parts of the island. grow in abundance both the choicest cabinet hand over the whole matter to the judgment of side. the American people and of their representanow be spread before the country and a decision rendered by that tribunal when a decision rendered by the tribunal when a tions so seldom err, and against whose will I have no policy to enforce. My opinion remains unchanged—indeed, it is confirmed by the report—that the interests of our country and of San Domingo alike invite the annexation of

In view of the difference of opinion upon this

general dissemination of the report.

Before the next session of Congress the people will have considered the subject and formed an intelligent opinion concerning it, to which opinion, deliberately made up, it will be the duty of every department of the Government duty of every department duty of conform to it than myself. It is not only the theory of our Constitution that the will of the people, constitutionally expressed, is the su-preme law, but I have ever believed that "all

NEW NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1871. VOL. II.-NO. 14.} .

men are wiser than any one man;" and if the tions against revolutionists and destructives, 1. The mountain slopes and valleys. These value is in its shell, are abundant in the deep

Government ought to acquiesce in that decision.
In again submitting to Congress a subject upon which public sentiment has been divided, and which has been made occasion of acrimonious debates in Congress, as well as of unjust aspersions elsewhere, I may, I trust, be in-DESIRE FOR ANNEXATION. dulged in a single remark. No man can hope all parts of the country, even the remotest, the agricultural land on the island. to perform duties so delicate and responsible as pertain to the Presidential office without sometimes incurring the hostility of those who deem their opinions and wishes treated with insuffi-

cient consideration; and he who undertakes to conduct the affairs of a great government as a faithful public servant, if sustained by the approval of his own conscience, may rely with proval of his own conscience. proval of his own conscience, may rely with confidence upon the candor and intelligence of HIS DUTY IN THE MATTER ENDED. a free people, whose best interests he has town and country-and everywhere there was of profitable cultivation. striven to subserve, and can bear with patience a general agreement in the declaration that of the people of the United States.

> AMPRICAN COLONISTS Their love of the country of their birth seems to have deepened with time, and they all look upon American institutions as the only means of rescuing the country from its present insecurity. Very touching expressions of this met

> THE POPULAR DISPOSITION. When asked if they would not prefer to reserve their independence if it were possible, but since experience had shown that the nation could not sustain itself, they were compelled to look abroad for support, and, if they must sink their nationality, they preferred the American Union, with free institutions, a friendly people, and common interests.

They seem to us to be more nearly unanimous upon this than we have ever before known a people to be upon any political question which they were called on to consider. It was only by diligent search that the exceedingly small proportion who opposed annexation could be give San Domingo an additional advantage found at all. The principal part of the opposition which does exist appears to be among certain traders in the ports, some of whom, in case of annexation and competition with Amecondition of independence to one of ownership or protection under a European power. nels they have a monopoly; others are but agents of houses abroad, and, in the event of these branch establishments being withdrawn, would be supplanted.

at every point.

whose seat is at the capital, with a President, CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE. the inhabitants of Santo Domingo was found to | Wild ginger and indigo grow everywhere in The Commissioners found the Government be much more advanced than had been anticiwhich is disturbed by insurrectionary leaders, aided by Haytians, and political intriguers and emissaries who have congregated at various points in the neighboring islands. These are From all that the Commissioners could ascertain, President Baez has the respect of a great trates, compare well with the same class in In Port-au-Prince peaches were found, raised hold the nation against domestic factions and race, or color. In their intercourse with each been raised. The frequency of civil commotions during a long period, and the consequent insecurity of property, have paralyzed industry, discouraged accumulation, and so impoverished the country accumulation, and so impoverished the country of the country is everywhere well adapted to manner, respectful, and polite. In all their relations with them the Commissioners found them kind and hospitable. The testimony accumulation, and so impoverished the country shows them to be an honest and inoffensive Maize or Indian corn is raised easily, but is of that for the last two years the financial re- people, among whom, in the rural districts, inferior quality, and does not flourish as in the sources of the Government, as its officers a person may travel alone and unarmed all United States. Three crops a year can be and the large share of confidence reposed in it by a strong majority of the people, could have maintained it in existence through so many

The insurrections which still exist are headed the Spanish portion of the population. by Cabral and Luperon. The former of these is universally conceded to be the more im-

ceeding years and their descendants. No in- other products unknown in the North. covered among them.

whom Spanish blood predominates.

As to Luperon, the testimony both in the are uneducated. But one printing office exists allegations, could not be known by the people, Cibao and on the coast is that he is simply a within the Republic from which newspapers or

The disturbance of which Cabral is the head

and generalship with patriotism. Many of the people possess very clear ideas of liberty, and show a willingness to make sacrifices for it. POPULATION.

account of the continual disturbances, nor the

immigrants from the United States; secondly, European traders, who do not settle anywhere, but sojourn at commercial points.

various, and its products may be increased cial jealousy existing between the people of the great district north of the central chain of the great district north of the central chain of expended upon them. There is evidence of On the mountain slopes, at different heights, The geologists of the expedition report the woods, as mahogony, satin-wood, &c., and a

Next, a more serious cause of disturbance to existence of the ores of iron, of copper, and of the steady exercise of political rights lies in the gold, with deposits of lighter, rock-salt, and house-building and ship-building. sion rendered by that tribunal whose convic- military chiefs, about whom has grown up a cess, and will doubtless in time be made avail. found in abundance in various parts of the States was the necessity of extinguishing the The reported coal of the Samana peninsula and lawlessness and shiftlessness arising from this in the neighborhood of Puerto Plata was examined, and found to be lignite, of little value as In view of the difference of opinion upon this subject, I suggest that no action be taken at the present session beyond the printing and general dissemination of the printing and subject. I suggest that no action be taken at the present session beyond the printing and general dissemination of the difference of opinion upon this a third, very effective at present, but which would be at once annihilated should the Downworked anciently, is at present little known. It minican Republic be effectually protected by invites patient exploration by practical miners.

connection with a strong nation. Within short The salt deposits in the mountains near Neyba distances of Santo Domingo are various other are believed to be extensive and valuable. The cumstantial accounts, of insurrections where for commercial purposes.

CHARACTER OF THE SOIL.

try, might become centers of a better system lying east and north of San Domingo City. They are eaten by the natives, but are not so than the Dominican Republic has yet known. south of the Cibao range. This is all admirable pasture land. 3. The rolling plain of the Vega, which is

people were found to be familiar with the ques-tion of annexation to the United States, and to of Azua and the valley of the Yaqui, where rain

cal causes. zens of all professions and occupations, in generally very rich or deep, but are susceptible

> variety of soil, there is very little swampy or unusually well watered, and excels in natural drainage

> There is hardly any portion of the island where the land is not capable of cultivation. The mountains support a vegetation widely differing from that of the lowlands, but they nowhere rise so high as to be covered with

most fertile regions on the face of the earth.

In many parts of San Domingo the canes do crops on land. not need replanting for many years. Fifteen over adjoining islands in this branch of industry.

The mountain regions are especially suited to the culture of coffee and cacao. The soil of the hills is usually rich; even where too steep and strong to be plowed, they can be cultivated with the hoe. The salubrity of the climate and mountain regions offer peculiar inducements. Native chocolate, prepared from the cacao-

the genus agave, which produce valuable fibres, already employed to some extent in San Domingo for domestic purposes. With suitable machinery it would form an important article

that comparatively little of it is saved. Thou-

organized and in complete operation in all its departments, exercising every function of lelegitimate government, with General Buenaventura Baez as the Chief Magistrate, in the white; they are mixed in every conceivable would seem possible in a soil so rich and a cli-

incited to extraordinary activity at this time by the fear of annexation to the United States.

Indeed are line black face is in an incited to extraordinary activity at this time by complete ascendancy. The cultivated and eduance, and have carefully fostered it.

Potatoes, cabbages, cauliflowers, celery,

ment of many of the leading men, who regard with which we are acquainted. They seem to In the valley of Cotanza, southwest of Santihim as the only statesman among them who can be practically destitute of prejudice of class, ago, at an elevation of 4,000 feet, wheat has other and with strangers they are courteous in | The country is everywhere well adapted to

harassed with incursions and attempts at revo- crimes, such as murder, arson, burglary, and More than forty distinct species have been of the indebtedness of the Dominican Republic. lution. Only the ability of the administration, the like, are nearly unknown among them. No found growing wild. Oranges, bananas, limes,

potatoes, corn, peas, beans, lettuce, radishes, They are all Roman Catholics, except the kidney beans, squashes, egg-plants, peppers,

San Domingo has always been noted for the comparative variety and abundance of its grasses. To the abundance of these grasses is can people are not averse to work when certain owing the pre-eminence of San Domingo over

ern end of the island, are intersected in all ances make it probable that the elements neces- directions by belts of timber with a luxuriant sary to physical persistency exist among the undergrowth. The cattle are in size a little people, especially in that large proportion in less than a good grade in our own country. They are mostly of a tawny or Alderney color. well made up, and long-horned. As their food winter, the chief business of the herdsman is to brand and to count them. They can be bought for about a cent a pound on the hoof. In the more arid districts goats abound, and in the forests swine thrive in great numbers. Sheep are now very few. Poultry is plentiful.

> generally used. They are raised in great numbers. They are smaller than those common in our own country, but are strong and docile, of

subsistence. One of the most remarkable agricultural fea tures of San Domingo is the diversity of natural growths in different localities. This arises from differences of soil, humidity, and temsiastical court, counting by parishes," which gave a total of 207,000. Comparing these Louisiana scarcely differ more widely to the eye Louisiana scarcely differ more widely to the eye IV. "Valles" and obligations of than do the lower portions of the adjoining valleys of the Yuna and the Yaqui. This diversity will give rise to an active internal commerce, and will prove beneficial to the

> The Commissioners expected to find an abundance of those insect and reptile pests which constitute such a serious drawback to were agreeably disappointed.

PRODUCTS OF THE FORESTS. The most striking characteristic of San Do mingo, at first sight, is the wonderful luxuri-

ance of its forrests. Near the coast various species of palm are abundant, and very valuable in constructing

the quantity is very great. There is also an apparently inexhaustible supply of the most valuable woods which enter into manufactures, Notwithstanding the abundance of valuable timber, no saw-nfill was found in the country.

or commercial purposes.

CHARACTER OF THE SOIL.

Summarily and practically viewed, for agrievery year, and their blubber tried down for Of A. Postel, france 5,007.

ties, growing attached to the mangrove bushes. Item fourth - obligations of

The testimony of witnesses, the observation of the Commissioners, and the reports of special investigations, show that it is generally a healthy country. Immigrants easily become accustomed to the climate. On the coast, where hot weather prevails, care must be

The popular idea that the Dominican territory is particularly unhealthy, and that persons visiting it are peculiarly liable to yellow fever is entirely erroneous. The average general health and longevity is quite equal to and Although San Domingo contains almost every probably greater than that of the United States. as a whole. Immigrants are not liable to any sandy land. The country is varied in 'surface,' more disturbance of general health in the process of acclimation than are persons who pass from the old to the new States of the United States, and, saving upon the sea-coast, the process is so gentle as to escape notice. Taking the year through, as much agricultual work can be done without affecting health as can be done in our Middle and Western States, and with greater results.

> EARTHQUAKES AND HURRICANES. Almost every year very slight shocks occur,

so inconsiderable that scarce one in a dozen of About the time of the autumnal equinox and average richness of the tracts suited to hurricanes are not unfrequent, and are somethis purpose are unsurpassed in the West times attended with damage, especially to shipping along the coast, and even to trees and

> There are several rivers, as the Yuna, Yaqui, draught to a considerable distance into the ties for floating down the timber which grows

within easy distance of their banks. BAYS AND HARBORS. The territory of the Dominican Republic is three great bays of Samana, Ocoa, and Man- nature. zanillo admit vessels of the largest draught, and are important as outlets of the commerce

of the country surrounding them. THE BAY OF SAMANA.

It is at the northeastern extremity of the island; is thirty miles long by about ten miles broad, and is sufficiently commodious for the largest fleets. It is well protected from the of the Mona Passage, the most important miles. eastern avenue to the Gulf of Mexico whose importance will be immensely enhanced should any new passage be opened to the world's commerce through the Isthmus of Darien. To any power having occasion to maintain a fleet in the West Indies, and especially to the United States, as having vast interests to protect in the Gulf of Mexico, the value of the position as a coaling station can hardly be overrated. Under a secure and liberal government a city of the West Indies. Its value to the coasting trade is enhanced by the fact that what is commonly called the peninsula is in reality an island, as there is a passage which could easily be made available for ships of moderate size, from the west end of the bay to the north sea

The Commissioners were notified while in vestigating matters at the capital of the Do-minican Republic that, although the Government of the United States had not relinquished possession of the Bay of Samana, but had constantly enjoyed the use and occupation thereof as a naval station, the rent due was in default are chiefly New York capitalists. The testifor more than one year.

PUBLIC DEST. The Commissioners made a careful and pro- together with a copy of the original contract is rapidly becoming a German monopoly. longed investigation into the important subject The receipts of the last three years have been mostly used for previous war debts, and for the canceling of outstanding paper money. The latter, which originally amounted to the

ceipts, as was also the amount of \$243,070 in Spanish war bonds.

1. The salaries due amount to \$600,000 00 II. Bonds, treasury notes &c. :

1. Spanish war bonds. amount issued....\$324,160 00 Amount canceled.. 243,070 00

Amount outstanding 81,090 00 2. Treasury notes, nominal balance in circulation, \$147,575.18, at price fixed by senatorial decree, 400 for \$1, (silver,) gives re-368 934

paper money,) nominal balance out of Comptroller's office, \$88,832.30, at 30 for one silver dollar.... 2,961 07 4. Obligations of present administration, issued by Comptroller.. 9,761 36

Obligations of present administration, issued by Comptroller, at 6 per cent...... 1,153 00 Total bonds, treasury notes,

III. Sundry debts and loans due towns and individuals.....

Cabral's administration unpaid, because of doubtful origin, the gress amount of which is 221,845 77 Note. - This debt is now in pro-

cess of consolidation, and may be reduced to less than onethird of its nominal sum. Notes of national bank, countersigned by general treasurer.. 4,130 00 VI. Sundry loans, bearing interest, (back interest not included) 293,511 23 VII. Loan without interest, (sub-

ject to rebate for advances).... VIII. Debt of 1859: Amount not known, because it is not known whether any was redeemed during Spanish administration. It cannot exceed \$50,000 or \$60,000, reckoned at 50,000 00

IX. Pending claims: Of Jesurun & Son, claim before Senate, for loan of \$100,000 in 1857, contested since, and now under consideration by the chamber

of accounts.....100,000 00 Of Jesurun & Son, for hire of schooner Amelia, in 1857, less than . 10,000 00 Of Rofman & Lowenthal and others..... 14,000 00 Of General Baez, for spoliations...... 70,000 00 Of W. L. Cazneau, for speliations in 1863. 10,000 00

Total..... 204,000 00 Total of debt and claims1 . \$1,538,487 591

20,223 20

50,000 00

204,000 00

\$2.50 a year in advance 5 Copies for \$10.

ERCAPITULATION. Item first-unpaid salaries . . . \$600,000 00 . 49,443 024 Cabral 221,845 77 Item fifth-national bank notes, loans.... Item seventh—loan without in-

Item ninth—pending claims.... Item tenth—pending claims, (in francs 136,719 40.) or..... Sum total of debt and claims.. \$1,565,831 591 1870 is here presented, in order to give as far as possible a complete view of the financial condition of the Dominican Republic:

RESUME OF THE INCOME OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR Custom receipts \$728,605 584 Direct and indirect tax 3. Public property.

Sales and rents..... 4. Sundries. Sundries

Total..... \$772,684 75 The Commissioners believe that the statement of the public debt given above includes all the indebtedness or obligations for which the Dominican Republic is in any degree liable, as well that which it considers valid and binding as that which it regards as unfounded or overstated by the claimants, setting forth everything for which the Government could, under any circumstances, be made liable. There was brought to the notice of the Com-

mission a claim of Messrs. Jesurun & Son, of and Ozama, which, during the greater part of Curacoa, for upward of \$500,000 for money the year, can be navigated by vessels of light advanced to the Dominican Government, with advanced to the Dominican Government, with interest, this being the same loan of \$100,000 interior. At present they simply afford facili- in 1857, mentioned in the preceding list of any way in connection with the negotiation or 'pending claims," by the same parties. The claim is now pending before the Dominican Senate, and undetermined.

Among the pending claims is one of President Baez for destruction of property. Another indented with numerous harbors, generally accessible only to vessels of light draught. The by W. L. Cazneau, seems to be of a similar in 1869, which provided for the annexation of

The fact that the people of the Dominican or Spanish part of the island were, subsequently, for a few years, ruled by the same government as that which ruled the Haytians did not render them "inhabitants of the French portion of the island of San Domingo, nor liable for burdens imposed on those inhabitants for their own acts.'

The extent of Dominican territorry, within winds, especially those of the northeast, by the mountains of the peninsula. Its entrance pre- and careful computation, made under the sents no obstacle to ships of the largest draught, direction of the Commissioners, to be 22,212 is narrower than that of the harbor of St. square miles. The portion of this already re-Thomas, but is the more easily fortified on that ferred to as having been mainly in Haytian account. Its situation gives it easy command occupancy, has an extent of about 1,000 square

GRANTS AND CONCESSIONS.

The following list, condensed from an official ing documents, and confirmed by the testimony, public were possible, "would you prefer it to gives an answer to this inquiry:
A grant to J. W. Fabens, or a company or-

ganized for the purpose, dated July 3, 1868, of would grow up at some point on this bay which would be one of the great commercial centers authorizing Fabens, by himself, or any comit it is the only conclusion to which a thoughtful pany organized for the purpose, to make a lover of that country can come-is manifest by general geological examination and survey of the facts. all the provinces and districts at the expense of said company; reports to be made every ever to recover its independence-to become, three months, as the survey progresses, to the Dominican Government, to enable it to offer for sale the mineral and agricultural lands of the localities examined; also an annual report; strength of all. said company to receive one-fifth of the public lands so surveyed, excepting coal lands, to be set apart as the quarterly reports are rendered. This survey is now in progress. The parties abstained from.

owning the franchise and paying the expense The most impo mony of the geologist in charge of the survey, Professor Gabb, giving details on this subject, and his annual reports, are herewith submitted, has this tendency developed itself that this trade

or grant. A grant to R. M. Funkhouser, of New York. October 7, 1868, for a line of mail steamers between New York and New Orleans and the Dominican Republic, with a provision that five per cent, of the import and export dues on all merchandise carried by said line be allowed to It would be all on the side of freedom. Nor the owners of the steamers. The line is now run by Spofford Brothers, of New York.

A grant to Ed. H. Hartmont to take guano from the island of Alta Vela in consideration of the loan of May, 1868. A grant to Fred, H. Fisher, of New York, from Santiago to Yuna river, or Samana pen-

To Felix Montecatini, August 3, 1867, renewed and extended April 5, 1870, to Shuma- State, which, by the inevitable laws of trade, cher and Angenard, for railroad from Ozama river to San Cristobal. To Julian Grangerard, June 3, 1870, for

building a railroad from Azua to Las Caobas. | odious. To Levi Gullamo, November 4, 1870, for constructing telegraph lines necessary in the To Carlos Baez, May 18, 1870, for rent of salt-works at Bani. Telesforo Volta, for salt-works at Beati

Island.

To W. L. Cazneau, May 28, 1866, to introduce immigrants and establish colonies. ter in writing, for permission to explore the To Davis Hatch, September 27, 1866, for interior of the island, but this was met in a working rock-salt mines of Neyba, and building railroad thereto, from shore at Barahona.

To P. A. Delgardo, to take guano from Alta Vela. (Void.) To E. H. Hartmont, February 1, 1869, for building railroad from Monte Cristo to Santiago and Yuma river; donation of lands border-

ing the road to be made by special grant. To Edward Prime and Edward P. Hollister, the Haytian than to the Dominican people. July 4, 1869, extended September 2, 1869, to This benefit would arise, first, from the examestablish a national bank. (Void.)

To E. H. Hartmont, to work Samana coal mines, in case loan of £420,000 should be effected. (Void.) To Industrial and Progressive Company, November 5, 1866, to work copper mine at El Cobre, San Cristobal. To W. L. Cazneau, January 18, 1867, copper

mine at Monte Mateo, San Cristobal. strong power. This would end the exhausting To the same, July 12, 1869, at Mano Matuey. border warfare which has been one of the greatand at Loma de la Boca de Diamarte, San est curses of Hayti, as well as San Domingo, Cristobal, (the last three consolidated under law of August 10, 1870.) To Cambiasco & Co., October 24, 1867. copper mine de Boca de Cuajo, Upper Haina,

San Cristobal. To San Domingo Company, (Geological Survey Company,) February 25, 1870, the mining circuit Buenaventura, Upper Haina, San Cristobal, by virtue of geological survey, to be modified to conform to geological contract.

To Felix Montecatini, March 19, 1867,

Renewed to Shumacher & Angenard, July 28, To San Domingo Company, September 16, 1870, mining district of Camu.

The Dominican Government has made no

grant or concession of land to any foreign Gov-ernment or nation except the United States. To the grants to foreigners by the Government above enumerated must be added some by municipalities. Of these the only ones which seem to the Commission to require notice here are those to certain parties, citizens of the United States, of lands and lots in the village of Santa Barbara, on the Bay of Samana, granted by the authorities of that town from its property as

To J. P. O'Sullivan, December 1, 1868, of 930 feet fronting on the harbor, and extending citizen, Col. Prosser is universally respected. back several hundred feet, varying in depth in During his term in Congress, he has rendered different parts, at \$62 per annum rent for 21 years; also, 84 feet and 90 feet, to the same, at \$4 rent for each; December 11, 1869, these

He will fill this subordinate position in a

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

TRANSTENT ADVERTISING RATES

RATES FOR YEARLY ADVERTISEMENTS Three months. Six months. One year, One-fourth column,.....825 \$40 \$75

The space of ten lines Brevier type constitutes an adver sing square in this paper.

Any space less than ten lines is charged the rate of a full All advertisements occupying less than a quarter of a col-ima are computed by the square.

Advertisements inserted for a less time than three month are charged transient rates,

To J. W. Fabens, December, 11, 1869, of 1,683 feet fronting on the harbor, in perpetuity, at \$112 per annum. These grants cover a large part of the unoccupied available front of the harbor. There was also a lease by the muni-cipal government of the city of San Domingo of a wharf front of limited extent and importance to W. L. Cazneau.

various rumors which had been circulated on divers occasions, that concessions or grants of land were made to officials of the Government of the United States when the treaty of annexation was negotiated in 1869. No pains were The following statement of the receipts for spared to ascertain the exact truth on this subect. In addition to an examination of all grants from the Government of the Republic, the Commission further carried their researches to all municipal grants by the town of Samana, where rumor had located the supposad grants. The officers of the municipality and the records were carefully examined. Inquiry was also made of the authorities of the city of San Domingo. After this investigation the Commission can declare, without hesitation, that there was no particle of evidence or color of evidence

for these charges. In order to be assured that the treaty furnshed to us was a true and full copy of the original in the archives of the Dominican Government, they thought it important to examine the original carefully and to determine whether ther the treaty of annexation or the Samana lease contain any concession or grant or secret clause favoring any United States official. This they did in the presence of the President and his Cabinet, in the formal manner which will be found set out at length in their journal of date February 18, 1871. It was ascertained that no such clause was contained in the treaty or lease. They received, also, the selemn assurance of the President and his Cabinet, as will be found in their journal of the same date, that no such grant or concession was made in preparation of the treaty.

TERMS OF ANNEXATION DESIRED. . The terms and conditions on which the Dominican Government and people desire to be that Republic to the United States as a Territory. In discussing this subject the President and his Cabinet manifested a liberal and accommodating spirit.

At the suggestion of the Commission the Doninican Government was willing to modify the reaty so as to devote one-fifth of the public lands to the establishment and maintenance of common schools in the Territory, provided the United States appropriate three hundred thousand acres of land to establish a college or colleges for instruction in agriculture, mining, engineering and kindred subjects.

OF DOMINICAN INDEPENDENCE.

Their attention having been called to certain declarations regarding the independence of the people thereto, those points were especially dwelt upon by the Commissioners. As already statement furnished by the Dominican Secretary | stated, the question was frequently asked, "In of State, which will be found in the accompany- case the independence of the Dominican Reannexation?" The general answer was, "We would prefer independence, but independence is impossible." That this latter declaration is a portion of the public lands, on condition of the result of a true insight into the condition

> There is but one chance for that Republic after a proper period of probation, one of a independence of each being guaranteed by the It is beyond the province of the Commis-

sioners, under the resolution of Congress, to recommend that such a course be adopted or

The most important commerce of the island, by far, the tobacco trade, is carried on mainly by Germans, and is with the principal scaport of the new German empire. To such an extent

RELATIONS OF SAN DOMINGO TO FREE LABOR IN THE WEST INDIES.

The influence which San Domingo, under a stable government, would exercise upon the institution of slavery, has not escaped attention. would that influence be merely moral. With liberty, order, free labor, and the immigration which would be attracted by these, with a vast advantage in the West India trade arising from the fact that any duties laid by the United States on West India productions for revenue September 9, 1869, for building a railroad would be a discrimination against slave products, and would inure to the protection of Dominican free labor, it is not too much to expect that San Domingo might be developed into a powerful would make slave labor in the neighboring islands unprofitable, and, by the spread of its ideas, render the whole slave and caste system

The Commissioners, of course, felt a deep

interest of the experiment in self-government which the blacks are trying in Hayti. They intimated to the President and his council their dispositions and desires, but they received no encouragement to pursue their in-They asked verbally, and through our Minis-

spirit equivalent to a refusal. They contented themselves, therefore, with taking such testimony and gathering such information upon matters bearing upon the question of annexaation as they could without giving offense In reviewing the whole field of their investigations, looking to the interests of both divi-sions of the island, they are firmly persuaded that the annexation of San Domingo to the United States would be hardly less heneficial to ple which would doubtless be afforded of a wellregulated, orderly, and prosperous State-the great need of that part of the world, and which it has as yet never seen. A second and more direct benefit would arise from the equitable establishment of a boundary line between the French-speaking and the Spanish-speaking na-tions upon that island, and its guarantee by a

and would enable both to devote their energies thenceforward to the education of their people and the development of their resources. Respectfully submitted, B. F. WADE. A. D. WHITE, S. G. Howe.

The President of the United States. The union of the two wings of the Republi-

can party in Missouri is immediately followed by other equally significant political movements. In the District of Columbia, where a new form of government has been lately adopted, and where a very exciting and bitter canvass was made for Mayor last summer, owing to a division of sentiment among the Republicans, the two parties have come together under one organization and upon terms satisfactory to all. The crumbs of comfort which the Democracy in the Republican ranks are not so comforting after all. President Grant is showing himself great in peace as well as in war .- Mississippian,

confirmed Col. W. F. Prosser as postmaster of Nashville. The appointment is an excellent one, and will give general satisfaction. As a

OUR NEW POSTMASTER .- The Senate bas

none exist. The Commissioners encountered

LOCAL LIBERTIES.

several instances of this.

people, upon a full presentation of the facts, shall decide that the annexation of the Republic is not desirable, every department of the Government ought to acquiesce in that decision.

The months of productive, and productive, except in limited argument of the Government ought to acquiesce in that decision.

The months of productive, except in limited argument of the coast range northeast of Monte Christi.

The months of productive, except in limited argument is deficient, as on limited regions where rain is deficient, as on limited regions. It is not seen a few miles from land, quite around the limited regions. It is not seen a few miles from land, quite around the limited regions. It is not seen a few miles from land, quite around the limited regions. It is not seen a few miles from land, quite around the limited regions. It is not seen a few miles from land, quite around the limited regions. It is not seen a few miles from land, quite around the limited regions. It is not seen a few miles from land, quite around the limited regions. It is not seen a few miles from land, quite around t municipal bodies, scattered through the coun- 2. The extensive prairie region of the Llanos

> To the surprise of the Commission, in almost generally wooded, and is the finest body of have discussed it among themselves with in- is partly or wholly wanting, from topographi-

their only hope of permanent peace and pros-perity is in annexation to and becoming part

the Commissioners at various points.

main an independent nation, the people generally answered that they would be glad to pre-

Soon after the treaty of annexation was negotiated a popular vote was taken in the manner usual in that Republic, as required by the treaty, which resulted in an almost unanimous expression in favor of annexation to the United States. The great mass of the evidence before the Commission goes to show that this was a truthful expression of the will of the people; and in all the expeditions, either of members of their own body or their agents, of export. ample corroboration of this opinion met them

The physical, mental, and moral condition of the wax alone.

lar vices is that of petty gambling, which is in- all seasons in the markets of the principal cities sum of \$2,628,300, left in circulation by Cabral, dulged in openly and extensively, especially by of San Domingo. They are tomatoes, sweet has been nearly all redeemed by customs re-

tolerance or religious persecution can be dis-The evidence taken shows that the Deminiof reasonable reward, but are good and faithful the adjacent islands in the raising of cattle. aborers. An abundance of labor can now be had at about \$10 or less per month. Appear-

There are few schools in the Republic, and consequently the great majority of the people

GENERAL POLITICAL CAPACITY. are willing to work when the result of their labor is made secure. From among them, at various times, many noble and capable men have arisen—men combining statesmanship

The data furnished by the authorities as to population are very meagre and unsatisfactory. An estimate was recently made "by the ecclejoin the expedition, and their numbers were leaders wielded only their own forces and known facts, and with all the evidence we can figures of the ecclesiastical court with certain resources they would long ago have been put gather from intelligent witnesses and personal observation, the Commissioners estimate that

RESOURCES-MINERAL PRODUCTS. The resources of the country are vast and

PROPORTION CAPABLE OF CULTIVATION.

Taken as a whole, this Republic is one of the

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. On the rich lowlands and valleys sugar-cane | the inhabitants is aware of them. vields the most profitable returns. The extent

successive annual cuttings from the original root are common, and upon the richest lands excellent cane is found of much greater age. The greater abundance of fuel would appear to

the beauty of the scenery make them exceedingly attractive. To persons unacclimated and accustomed to the northern atmosphere these bean, is of excellent quality and in general There are a number of plants, varieties of

The product of wax and honey is surprisingly large. The honey is so cheap and plentiful sands of hives are destroyed for the sake of

full and peaceable possession of all parts of the republic, except on the Haytian border, rable numbers of the pure white race are to which is disturbed by insurrectionary leaders, be found, and generally in the mixed race the the culture of cinchona, or peruvian bark, can

majority of the Dominican people for his administrative abilities, and the strong attach-

informed us, have been inadequate to pay its expenses. Meanwhile it has been constantly ger. The judicial officers stated that high Tropical fruits are numerous and excellent.

American emigrants sent out in 1824 and suc- &c.; also, yams, cassava, plantains, and many

The vast savannas, called llanos, on the east

The people at large are not degraded. They Flocks of wild guinea fowls may be seen in many parts of the island. For travelling and transportation horses are

great endurance, and thrive upon a scanty

health, comfort, and material interests of the inhabitants. comfort in most tropical countries; but they

such houses as have been generally found best

The Cammissioners were not unmindful of